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For Immediate Release: Wednesday, June 21, 2006  
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## **MAY LOCAL UNEMPLOYMENT RATES ANNOUNCED**

*Milwaukee-Waukesha-West Allis MSA has largest monthly net increase in jobs*

### **METRO AREAS**

**Madison** – Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (DWD) Secretary Roberta Gassman announced today that unemployment rates in all 12 Wisconsin Metropolitan Statistical Areas decreased in May on a monthly basis. The monthly decreases in the metro unemployment rates ranged from one-tenth of a percentage point to five-tenths, with four of the 12 metro areas declining by five-tenths of a percentage point. Eight metro areas had unemployment rates below the statewide rate of 4.5 percent, not seasonally adjusted, with the Madison MSA having the lowest at 3.3 percent. The La Crosse MSA was also under the four percent mark with a May unemployment rate of 3.5 percent.

From an annual perspective, seven metro areas had unemployment rates that were lower than May 2005. The Racine MSA posted the largest annual decline, down five-tenths of a percentage point to 5.4 percent. The Janesville MSA also posted one of the more noteworthy decreases; down three-tenths to 4.7 percent compared to May 2005.

Nonfarm wage and salary estimates showed monthly job growth in every metro area in May. The Milwaukee-Waukesha-West Allis MSA had the state's largest monthly net increase, in volume and percentage terms, gaining 8,200 jobs for 1.0 percent growth. The Appleton MSA and the Madison MSA also measured monthly net job growth numbering in the thousands.

Eight metro areas have more jobs, overall, than they had in May 2005. The Madison MSA led all Wisconsin metros in job growth, both numerically (+5,900 jobs) and in growth rate (+1.7 percent).

### **COUNTY RATES**

All 72 counties had lower unemployment rates in May compared to April. Iron and Vilas counties rates' dropped by 3.1 and 3.0 percent points, respectively, and 25 others dropped by at least one full percent point. Dane County had Wisconsin's lowest unemployment rate in May at 3.2 percent. Menominee County had the state's highest county-level rate in May at 10.3 percent. Fourteen counties had May unemployment rates below four percent and 32 counties were lower than the statewide rate in May of 4.5 percent.

"Decreasing unemployment in each of the state's 12 largest metro areas and all 72 counties, and an increase in jobs for eight metro areas over the year, indicate an improving Wisconsin labor market. Overall, we are making solid progress," Secretary Gassman said.

Thirty-three counties have lower unemployment rates compared to May 2005; nine were the same; and 30 counties reported higher rates. Taylor county had the largest decline, 2.6 percent lower than May 2005. Price County had the largest unemployment increase, 1.2 percent higher than last May. Both Kenosha and Racine, in the southeast corner of the state, also posted large declines in unemployment rate among metropolitan counties.

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## Employment and Labor Force

### Place of Residence Data

#### Unadjusted labor force estimates

	<b>Current</b>	<b>Month Ago</b>	<b>Year Ago</b>
Total labor force	3,058,700	3,054,900	3,025,300
Employed	2,920,700	2,902,600	2,886,900
Unemployed	138,000	152,300	138,400
Wis. Unemployment Rate	4.5%	5.0%	4.6%
U.S. Unemployment Rate	4.4%	4.5%	4.9%

#### Adjusted labor force estimates

	<b>Current</b>	<b>Month Ago</b>	<b>Year Ago</b>
<i>Total labor force</i>	3,075,900	3,079,600	3,040,800
<i>Employed</i>	2,931,900	2,932,400	2,897,200
<i>Unemployed</i>	143,900	147,200	143,600
<i>Wis. Unemployment Rate</i>	4.7%	4.8%	4.7%
<i>U.S. Unemployment Rate</i>	4.6%	4.7%	5.1%

#### Unadjusted Unemployment Rate, by WI Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA)

<b>MSA</b>	<b>Current</b>	<b>Month Ago</b>	<b>Year Ago</b>
<i>Wisconsin</i>	4.5	5.0	4.6
<i>Appleton</i>	4.4	4.8	4.3
<i>Eau Claire</i>	4.1	4.6	4.3
<i>Fond du Lac</i>	4.4	4.7	4.3
<i>Green Bay</i>	4.6	5.1	4.5
<i>Janesville</i>	4.7	5.1	5.0
<i>La Crosse</i>	3.5	4.0	3.7
<i>Madison</i>	3.3	3.5	3.2
<i>Milwaukee-Waukesha-West Allis</i>	5.0	5.2	5.1
<i>Oshkosh-Neenah</i>	4.3	4.7	4.4
<i>Racine</i>	5.4	5.8	5.9
<i>Sheboygan</i>	4.1	4.2	3.9
<i>Wausau</i>	4.1	4.6	4.2

### Place of Work Data

#### Nonfarm wage and salary estimates, by WI Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA), in thousands

<b>MSA</b>	<b>Current</b>	<b>Month Ago</b>	<b>Year Ago</b>
<i>Wisconsin</i>	2,882.7	2,855.7	2,854.2
<i>Appleton</i>	117.3	116.2	117.2
<i>Eau Claire</i>	81.2	80.5	80.4
<i>Fond du Lac</i>	48.6	48.3	48.3
<i>Green Bay</i>	169.6	168.7	168.5
<i>Janesville</i>	69.9	69.3	69.8
<i>La Crosse</i>	73.5	73.2	73.9
<i>Madison</i>	349.6	346.5	343.7
<i>Milwaukee-Waukesha-West Allis</i>	841.3	833.1	842.4
<i>Oshkosh-Neenah</i>	92.7	92.0	91.9
<i>Racine</i>	81.5	81.1	80.3
<i>Sheboygan</i>	63.7	63.2	63.9
<i>Wausau</i>	72.1	71.8	72.6

**WISCONSIN COUNTIES**  
**Unemployment Rates**  
**May 2006**  
(Not Seasonally Adjusted)

RANK	COUNTY	RATE	LAST RATE	LAST RANK	YR AGO RATE	RANK	COUNTY	RATE	LAST RATE	LAST RANK	YR AGO RATE
6	ADAMS	5.8%	6.6%	15	6.0%	54	MARATHON	4.1%	4.6%	56	4.2%
3	ASHLAND	6.5%	7.3%	10	5.6%	10	MARINETTE	5.5%	6.8%	13	5.4%
29	BARRON	4.8%	6.0%	26	4.6%	12	MARQUETTE	5.5%	6.3%	21	5.6%
20	BAYFIELD	5.1%	8.0%	5	4.9%	1	MENOMINEE	10.3%	12.0%	1	10.3%
40	BROWN	4.5%	4.8%	49	4.4%	7	MILWAUKEE	5.8%	6.1%	24	6.0%
69	BUFFALO	3.5%	4.0%	67	3.8%	56	MONROE	4.1%	4.2%	64	3.6%
21	BURNETT	5.1%	6.3%	20	4.7%	13	OCONTO	5.4%	6.9%	12	4.9%
66	CALUMET	3.7%	4.1%	66	4.0%	27	ONEIDA	4.9%	7.0%	11	5.0%
42	CHIPPEWA	4.4%	5.6%	30	4.8%	36	OUTAGAMIE	4.6%	5.0%	41	4.4%
41	CLARK	4.4%	6.0%	25	6.0%	71	OZAUKEE	3.5%	3.8%	70	3.5%
51	COLUMBIA	4.2%	4.9%	43	4.0%	62	PEPIN	3.8%	4.8%	45	4.2%
30	CRAWFORD	4.7%	5.3%	37	4.7%	68	PIERCE	3.6%	4.9%	42	3.7%
72	DANE	3.2%	3.3%	72	3.1%	22	POLK	5.0%	6.1%	23	4.4%
33	DODGE	4.7%	4.9%	44	4.5%	37	PORTAGE	4.6%	4.8%	50	4.5%
38	DOOR	4.5%	6.1%	22	4.8%	4	PRICE	6.4%	7.6%	8	5.2%
34	DOUGLAS	4.6%	5.6%	31	4.9%	14	RACINE	5.4%	5.8%	29	5.9%
59	DUNN	3.9%	4.8%	46	4.0%	50	RICHLAND	4.3%	4.5%	57	3.9%
61	EAU CLAIRE	3.9%	4.0%	68	3.9%	32	ROCK	4.7%	5.1%	40	5.0%
8	FLORENCE	5.7%	7.3%	9	6.4%	5	RUSK	5.8%	8.3%	3	6.2%
44	FOND DU LAC	4.4%	4.7%	54	4.3%	52	SAUK	4.2%	4.8%	47	4.0%
9	FOREST	5.6%	8.2%	4	6.0%	15	SAWYER	5.3%	8.0%	6	5.2%
58	GRANT	4.0%	4.4%	61	4.0%	35	SHAWANO	4.6%	5.5%	33	4.5%
48	GREEN	4.3%	4.7%	51	4.1%	57	SHEBOYGAN	4.1%	4.2%	65	3.9%
23	GREEN LAKE	5.0%	5.8%	28	5.3%	53	ST. CROIX	4.1%	5.5%	32	3.8%
63	IOWA	3.8%	4.6%	55	4.0%	46	TAYLOR	4.3%	6.5%	16	6.9%
2	IRON	7.1%	10.2%	2	7.6%	64	TREMPEALEAU	3.8%	4.4%	59	3.8%
28	JACKSON	4.9%	6.3%	19	5.0%	43	VERNON	4.4%	4.7%	53	3.9%
45	JEFFERSON	4.4%	4.5%	58	4.2%	26	VILAS	4.9%	7.9%	7	4.9%
18	JUNEAU	5.2%	5.9%	27	5.4%	60	WALWORTH	3.9%	4.4%	60	3.8%
25	KENOSHA	5.0%	5.3%	39	5.7%	17	WASHBURN	5.2%	6.5%	17	5.3%
47	KEWAUNEE	4.3%	4.8%	48	4.1%	55	WASHINGTON	4.1%	4.3%	62	4.0%
70	LA CROSSE	3.5%	3.9%	69	3.7%	67	WAUKESHA	3.7%	3.8%	71	3.8%
65	LAFAYETTE	3.8%	4.2%	63	3.8%	39	WAUPACA	4.5%	5.4%	36	4.9%
11	LANGLADE	5.5%	6.6%	14	5.1%	19	WAUSHARA	5.2%	5.5%	35	4.8%
16	LINCOLN	5.3%	6.4%	18	5.4%	49	WINNEBAGO	4.3%	4.7%	52	4.4%
31	MANITOWOC	4.7%	5.3%	38	4.7%	24	WOOD	5.0%	5.5%	34	5.9%

Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development - Bureau of Workforce Information

**WISCONSIN CITIES**  
**Unemployment Rates**  
**May 2006**  
 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

RANK	CITY	RATE	LAST RATE	LAST RANK	YR AGO RATE
5	APPLETON CITY	5.9%	6.4%	6	5.5%
2	BELOIT CITY	7.1%	7.6%	2	7.3%
27	BROOKFIELD CITY	3.4%	3.3%	27	3.5%
20	EAU CLAIRE CITY	4.2%	4.3%	20	4.3%
11	FOND DU LAC CITY	5.3%	5.5%	11	5.1%
22	FRANKLIN CITY	3.8%	3.9%	25	4.0%
4	GREEN BAY CITY	6.7%	7.3%	4	6.7%
18	GREENFIELD CITY	4.4%	4.4%	19	4.6%
15	JANESVILLE CITY	4.8%	5.1%	16	5.3%
9	KENOSHA CITY	5.6%	6.1%	8	6.5%
19	LA CROSSE CITY	4.2%	4.7%	18	4.5%
28	MADISON CITY	3.2%	3.2%	28	3.1%
7	MANITOWOC CITY	5.6%	6.6%	5	5.4%
23	MENOMONEE FALLS VILLAGE	3.7%	4.1%	22	4.0%
3	MILWAUKEE CITY	7.1%	7.4%	3	7.3%
24	NEENAH CITY	3.7%	3.9%	23	3.6%
26	NEW BERLIN CITY	3.7%	3.8%	26	3.7%
25	OAK CREEK CITY	3.7%	3.9%	24	3.8%
17	OSHKOSH CITY	4.6%	4.9%	17	5.0%
1	RACINE CITY	8.4%	9.2%	1	9.7%
12	SHEBOYGAN CITY	5.2%	5.2%	13	4.9%
6	STEVENS POINT CITY	5.8%	5.9%	9	5.6%
16	SUPERIOR CITY	4.6%	5.1%	14	5.0%
14	WAUKESHA CITY	4.8%	5.1%	15	4.6%
10	WAUSAU CITY	5.6%	5.8%	10	5.2%
21	WAUWATOSA CITY	4.0%	4.2%	21	3.9%
13	WEST ALLIS CITY	5.0%	5.3%	12	5.2%
8	WEST BEND CITY	5.6%	6.3%	7	5.7%

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